

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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TELEGRAPH BRANCH
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Adm

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FROM: Brussels

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 400, September 12, 6 p.m.

UNA

DCR

During course of conversation today with Van Zeeland prior to his departure for New York this evening, he said that he has been giving considerable thought to question of operations of UN at present stage. He said of course he entertains no doubt in his mind of important role which UN will play over the longer term. He is in doubt as to direction it should take at present juncture. This doubt does not relate to Korea but he said concerns China and Far East generally and danger of Soviet Union and its associates exploiting UN for their own purposes.

Van Zeeland wondered if he could have benefit of an informal talk with the Secretary no matter how brief at some convenient moment during his stay in US which will last from two to three weeks.

Van Zeeland expressed gratification at better psychology prevailing both in US and Europe regarding national defense. I encouraged him to believe that Belgian declaration in this field had been well received in US. He said that he hoped, although he intimated that there was doubt in his mind that present Belgian Government would be able to carry this program of military preparedness through parliament, but he added if it does not succeed "its successor will do so." I asked if it did not succeed would its successor possibly be a PSC Socialist combination but Van Zeeland thought not. It cannot be said that Van Zeeland exudes confidence in ability of present Pholien Government to remain in office over the longer term.

Van Zeeland also referred again to numerous threats against his life which he has been receiving during past few weeks. He said they emanated from Communist sources but that the police had not been able to track them down.

755.00/9-1250

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDG/MR

EMC HPM

REVIEWED BY J.L. Smith DATE NOV 19 1982

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